

**GERMANTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 26, 2011**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Germantown Parks and Recreation Commission for May 26, 2011 took place at Germantown Parks and Recreation, 2276 West Street.

**PRESENT:**

Kevin Young  
Jerry Gee  
Mary Anne Gibson  
Angela Sorensen  
Lisa Parker  
James Wilson  
Mike Palazzolo, Alderman  
George Brogdon

**ABSENT:**

William Kenley  
Bill Lansden  
Rodney Strop

Pam Beasley, Director of Parks and Recreation

**GUESTS:**

Syd Lerner, Executive Director of Greater Memphis Greenline

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2011**

There was one correction to the minutes of April 28, 2011. Mr. Wilson was present at the April meeting.

It was moved by Mrs. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gee to approve minutes of April 28, 2011.

Young – yes; Gee – yes; Gibson – yes; Sorensen – yes, Wilson – Yes, Palazzolo – yes. Motion approved.

Mr. Young opened with a nomination for vice-chairman. Mrs. Mary Anne Gibson was the first nomination for that position. There were no other nominations and a motion was made to close the nominations on the set name. It was moved and seconded to elect Mary Anne Gibson as vice-chairman to the Parks and Recreation Commission. This was accepted on affirmation.

**MEMPHIS GREENLINE PRESENTATION**

A presentation was given by the Executive Director of the Greater Memphis Greenline, Syd Lerner. The Shelby Farms Greenline takes advantage of an abandoned CSX railroad that winds across Shelby County.

It is an example of what is called a "rails-to-trails" project. This line cuts through many of Memphis' well-known neighborhoods and runs along the north edge of Shelby Farms Park. Phase One is 7 miles long and stretches from Tillman Street near Walnut Grove and ends at Shelby Farms where Farm Road dead ends. A new trail connects the Greenline to trails within the park itself. The Parks and Recreation Department is interested in collaboration and support of this initiative as the Germantown Greenway System continues to develop. There will eventually be a connection to this section of trail, enabling the citizens of Germantown to travel through Shelby Farms Park to mid-town.

### CAPRA REACCREDITATION REPORT

Ms. Pam Beasley gave handouts to the Commission. The schedule was discussed regarding the visitation team.

### POLICY MANUAL UPDATES

Ms. Pam Beasley handed out copies regarding the Policy Manual and gave a brief overview of the benefits of accreditation. There was discussion regarding the documents that need formal review which the staff has worked on for the past several weeks in order to be formally adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The changes and updates were highlighted by Ms. Beasley and Ms. Natalie Ruffin.

It was moved by Mr. Palazzolo, seconded by Mrs. Gibson to approve the updated Parks and Recreation Policy Manual document.

Young – yes; Gee – yes; Gibson – yes; Sorensen – yes, Wilson – Yes, Palazzolo – yes. Motion approved.

### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN UPDATES

As a part of the CAPRA self-assessment process, the staff will highlight the additions and revisions to the comprehensive Parks and Open Space Master Pan. The original document was created in 1984 and has served as the foundation for most of the current park development in Germantown. A major update was completed in 2006. New opportunities, changes in funding and priorities set forth in the Parks and Recreation Commission's Strategic Action Plans between 2007 to present should be officially incorporated into the document. The approval of the updates will document the intended direction set by the Commission. Ms. Pam Beasley reported on the changes and updates.

It was moved by Mr. Gee, seconded by Mr. Wilson to approve the updated Parks and Open Space Master Plan document.

Young – yes; Gee – yes; Gibson – yes; Sorensen – yes, Wilson – Yes, Palazzolo – yes. Motion approved.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Bobby Lanier Park (Ocean View Farms) timeline and update: Ms. Pam Beasley reported that by the next meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> she hoped to have a design firm to assist in the development of Ocean View Farms/Bobby Lanier Park. The purpose of the facility will be to have a working farm.
- Projects update:
  - Skatepark: There have been three bidders on the site.
  - Riverdale Park: There is still work being done on the Gathering Place, but the project is scheduled to be finished this summer.
  - Dogwood Park: The build date has been set for October 1, 2011.
- Special Recreation Program – Ms. Beasley reported the growth in regards to the Special Recreation program, almost to the limit of the amount of resources. There was discussion about putting together an ad hoc committee group to serve for several months to help address the needs of the Special Recreation program.

Mrs. Mary Anne Gibson voiced concern over the lack of attendance at the committee meetings. Mr. Kevin Young expressed his understanding of her concerns.

### COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

Planning Commission – Ms. Lisa Parker provided an update on the Elysium development. This 25-acre development is located on Poplar Avenue across from Oakleigh. The property is owned by an orthopedic physician in Mississippi. There will be about 47 homes starting at 4800 sq. ft. in size. There will be an 8.27-acre common area for the residents to use. It will be an environmentally friendly development.

Youth Sports Alliance – Mrs. Mary Anne Gibson gave a report on the Youth Sports Alliance and how they are working to develop a uniform policy.

Reaccreditation Committee – Mr. Jerry Gee briefly reported on the reaccreditation.

### RECREATION UPDATE

Ms. Natalie Ruffin thanked everyone for attending the Barbeque in the Park. She also spoke about the attendance with Fun in the Sun. There was an update on the sports teams and summer day camp. Kipp Lawton will return to head up the summer day camp program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.